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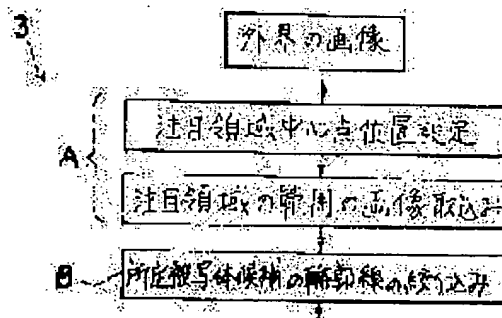
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## (54) EXTRACTING METHOD FOR BORDER LINE OF OBJECT TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To appropriately extract a border line of a prescribed object to be photographed with high accuracy, and also, to shorten the arithmetic time by detecting segments in the prescribed direction centering around a notice point set to an image, emphasizing them by allowing them to cooperate with each other, and also, erasing them by allowing them to compete with each other.

CONSTITUTION: In a step A of a neural net part 3, an image within a range of a notice area is fetched by setting a notice point on the image, and subsequently, in a step B, a candidate of a prescribed object to be photographed is narrowed down. That is, segments in the prescribed direction are detected from the fetched image, the segments in which continuity is high and/or strength is large in the direction being almost the same as the prescribed direction are emphasized by allowing them to cooperate with each other, and also, the segments in which continuity is low and/or strength is small in the prescribed direction are erased by allowing them to compete with each other, and a border line of the candidate of the prescribed object to be photographed is extracted. In such a state, by repeating these emphasis and erasure, the segments being a border line of the candidate of the prescribed object to be photographed are selected, and moreover, even if the segments are lacking to some extent, the lacking part is compensated by emphasizing them and allowing them to compete with each other.



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